

Senate Resolution 443

By: Senators Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd, Buckner of the 44th, Sims of the 12th, Bulloch of the 11th, Tarver of the 22nd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Fernando Bryant; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is proud to call Mr. Fernando Bryant one of the finest
3 citizens, athletes, and humanitarians the state has ever produced; and

4 WHEREAS, born on March 26, 1976, in Camilla, Georgia, Mr. Bryant attended Riverdale
5 High School, where he was a stellar football wide receiver and defensive back and a star
6 sprinter for the school's track team; and

7 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mr. Bryant attended the University of
8 Alabama, continuing his phenomenal football career with two bowl game appearances for
9 the Crimson Tide, starting in 40 games and being selected to the All-SEC second team in
10 1996 and 1997 and the All-SEC first team in 1998; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1999, Mr. Bryant was selected as a first round draft choice for the
12 Jacksonville Jaguars and became the second Jaguar to start every game as a rookie; and

13 WHEREAS, after five seasons for Jacksonville, Mr. Bryant went on to play for the Detroit
14 Lions and later with the Pittsburgh Steelers; and

15 WHEREAS, with his move to Pittsburgh, Mr. Bryant had the amazing opportunity to play
16 in the 2009 Super Bowl and became part of the world champion title earning Steelers squad;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, off the field, Mr. Bryant established the 25 Sports Foundation to provide
19 academic services, guidance, and encouragement to at-risk youth through a variety of
20 programs in Georgia, Florida, Michigan, and Tennessee; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Bryant's philanthropic deeds have been recognized with awards such as the
22 Detroit Lions' 2004 Man of the Year award, the Detroit Sports Fans Choice Award, and the
23 2004 Humanitarian Award for Outstanding Humanitarian Work by an Athlete; and

24 WHEREAS, he devotes his free time to such organizations as Hosea's Feed the Hungry, the
25 Children's Aide Society, the National Kidney Foundation, and Talk About Life with Kids;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, through his unwavering generosity, compassion, and dedication to helping his
28 fellow man, Mr. Bryant serves as an extraordinary role model for our youth and is a shining
29 example to all.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 join in commending Mr. Fernando Bryant for his invaluable community involvement, thank
32 him for his many contributions to Georgia, and extend congratulations on his Super Bowl
33 win with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Fernando Bryant.